

STATEMENT

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Description of Road</i>	<i>Length (Kms)</i>
1.	Pilibhit-Hardwar-Paonta-Nahan-Ambala.	475
2.	Gorakhpur-Nautanwa.	84
3.	*Lateral Road (Bareilly-Amingaon) including Darbhanga-Forbesganj link.	1050
4.	Ghazipur-Ballia-Chaapra-Hajipur.	210
5.	Mokamah-Farakka.	310
6.	Arrah-Buxer.	80
7.	Patna-Muzaffarpur-Sonbarsa.	160
8.	Kora-katihar-Harishchandarpur-Farakka.	95

*stands included in the National Highway grid *except* Darbhanga-Forbesganj portion.

[English]

**Use of Public Sector Vehicles by
Government Officials**

1702. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1515 on August 2, 1991 and state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the public sector companies keep on receiving requests for making available their cars to Government officials;

(b) if so, the reasons for the austerity instructions not being followed scrupulously;

(c) whether the staff cars have been allotted to many individual officers exclusively with drivers in contravention of the staff car rules; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the above violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Use of Staff Cars in Public Sector Companies is regulated as per policy of each individual company as well as the general instructions issued by the Department of Public Enterprises from time to time. Instructions also exist prohibiting use of Staff Cars of the Public Sector Undertakings/Autonomous Organisations by Government officials while not on tour. Monitoring of the instructions is the concern of the administrative Ministry/Department dealing with the companies/bodies under their control. The information may have to be collected from all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. The time and labour involved will not commensurate with the object to be achieved.

(c) and (d) No Staff Car is earmarked for the exclusive use of any officer. The Staff Cars form a pool and are deployed according to their availability and requirement.

Safeguards have been provided in the Staff Car Rules and in the instructions issued by the Government to prevent misuse of Staff Cars.

Indian Banks Operating Abroad

1703. SHRIG. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Indian banks operating abroad at present, bank-wise and country-wise;

(b) whether some of these banks have become sick and are incurring losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to check the losses of these banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) At present 9 Indian banks are operating 115 branches abroad. Bank-wise

and country-wise break-up is given in the Statement.

(b) Reserve Bank of India(RBI) have reported that some foreign branches of Indian banks have recorded losses on account of provisions required to be made for bad and doubtful debts.

(c) It will not be in public interest to disclose the details of losses incurred by individual Indian banks abroad.

(d) Various steps have been taken in the last few years to monitor and improve the operations of overseas branches which inter-alia include strengthening of personnel policy and prudential norms in regard to lending limits and country exposure, reinforcing of internal and supervisory control, promoting cooperation and coordination among the Indian banks, portfolio inspection of international divisions, closure of non-viable branches, review of problem credits etc. The important developments of overseas branches are also discussed in detail by Governor, RBI in his Action Plan Meetings.